

There are some things so ridiculous as to approach positive sublimity—so absurd as to display an actual genius for absurdity, far beyond the reach of art—so foolish as to transcend all the efforts of cultivation to imitate or come up with them. We will quote a few examples. In the Herald of Friday we find the following: "The resolution recently adopted by the Democratic District Convention at Clinton, against the Know-Nothings, embodies as much of arrogance as it does of impudence and ignorance." Now is not that a pretty specimen? Gentlemen of the Democratic Convention—delegates from all parts of the district, we call upon you to read that and feel ashamed of yourselves. The Herald with its characteristic modesty and respect for others, has pronounced you guilty of ignorance, impudence and arrogance. Oh you old men, you young men, you middle-aged men, you sixty-seven delegates from ten counties, read and tremble. Again, "Outsiders as they are, ignorant, presumably, of the objects which this political association has in view, how dare they, with any show of reason, set themselves up as judges, and declare that the ends sought to be attained are 'antagonistic to the principles of the Constitution of the United States.' Aye, that is the way to talk to them, miserable sinners as they are—mere 'Loo Focos' as they are, how dare they [a pretty word that, to use to freemen of North Carolina] how dare they express their views openly and plainly? You men of New Hanover, Sampson, Duplin, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Harnett, Robeson and Richmond, the Herald demands to know how you dare say what you think. Is the secret order or the inside or outside organs of the same to talk to you in this way? The first Thursday in August will show what you dare do.

"Antagonistic to the principles of the Constitution of the United States." Now, one principle of the Constitution of the United States is embodied in the following prohibition: "Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Thus far the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution of the Grand Council of Know-Nothing, adopted June 17th, 1854, lays it down that the objects of the order shall be carried out by placing none but native-born Protestant citizens of the United States in any office by gift or appointment. The obligation of the second degree of the order contains the following: "You will when elected to any office remove all foreigners, aliens and Roman Catholics from office; and that you will in no case appoint such to office."

As Mr. Rayner very truly said in the Convention of 1855, this exclusion from holding offices of trust or profit on account of religious belief, is about the very utmost extent to which persecution can now be carried in any civilized country, and in endeavoring to effect it by an oath-bound confederation the order certainly does what the constitution of the United States prohibits by law, and the framers of our present State Constitution decided against in 1835.

We don't know anything about the order don't we? We never heard of the Massachusetts snelling committee—nor of the abolition message of Gov. Miner of Connecticut, one of Sam's pets—nor of the abolition resolutions of their State councils at the North, nor of their anti-Nebraska triumphs over the Administration, nor of their Northern emissaries in Virginia, electioneering against Henry A. Wise? These are things all may know, for they are facts. The order may have a Southern face, but it compares with its Northern face, as a three cent piece would with a Spanish dollar, at best but an alloy, and of no value or weight in the general calculation. "Seward!" why the New York Herald itself admits that the Know Nothings controlled the Legislature that elected Seward, and that without them he could not have been elected.

Here is the pith of Northern Know Nothingism. It is the solid dollar.

The Massachusetts platform is embraced in the following resolutions passed by a know-nothing convention there:

"Resolved, That we hail with hope and joy the recent brilliant success of the republican party in the States of Maine, Iowa, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and we trust these victories are a foreboding of others soon to come, by which the FREE STATES shall present one solid phalanx of opposition TO THE AGGRESSIONS OF SLAVERY.

"Resolved, That in the present chaotic condition of parties in Massachusetts, the only star above the horizon is the love of human liberty and the ABHORRENCE OF SLAVERY, and that IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL ANTI-SLAVERY MEN to rally round the republican party, as an organization which invites the united action of the people on the transcending question of slave dominion which now divides the Union."

And here is the Southern face. The bogus three cent piece for Southern circulation.

The know-nothing State council of Georgia adopted, at its last session in Macon, the following resolution, and directed it to be published. It is thus officially printed in the Savannah Republican:

"Resolved, That slavery and slave institutions are protected by the constitution of the United States, and the obligation to maintain them is not sectional but national; that the right to establish them is vested in the people of each State; and that Congress has no constitutional power to interfere, by excluding a new State applying for admission into the Union, upon the ground that the constitution of such State recognizes slavery."

Our attention has been called to an article in the "Herald" of Wednesday headed "The Clinton Convention." It is not our purpose to notice that article further than to correct some misstatements of the "special reporter," whether intentional or otherwise we do not pretend to say.

In the first instance there was no debate, angry or otherwise, between Mr. Holmes of New Hanover and Mr. Spears of Harnett concerning the appointment of the committee-men, nor did Mr. Spears' motion prevail, for the simplest reason in the world—Mr. Spears made no motion on the subject. There was some debate on a motion of Mr. Spears made at the opening of the evening session. That motion, and the action of the Convention thereupon, is stated in the Secretaries' report of the proceedings. The only warmth displayed by Mr. Spears was in repelling all suspicion of Know-Nothingism, with which he understood he had been charged.

Of the attempted wit at the expense of the speakers we need say nothing. We suppose every body understands that. Messrs. Hill of Duplin and McKoy of Sampson made comparatively short speeches, but in good taste, containing good doctrine, well expressed and well delivered. Mr. Houston of Duplin made a longer and more carefully arranged speech, and one which did him credit in every way—especially, a good speech. Mr. Edwin Williams of Caswell is a native of Sampson, and was in the midst of his relatives and friends.

Now as regards the trouble in the wigwam, and the three committee-men spoken of as not agreeing to the report. The only dissent was in regard to the policy of some word or words in one of the resolutions, and not from any indisposition to be placed fully and openly in opposition to the secret order. If the Herald will turn to the fourth of the series of resolutions adopted by the Convention, and bear it in mind that all the dissenters were prepared to sign that, he will be enabled to judge of what chance there is

for building up Know Nothing calculations upon them. Considerable reference is made to Mr. McEachin, of Robeson. If this is done with any view of identifying Mr. McEachin with the Know Nothings it will be a very decided failure. Mr. M. was among the last gentlemen we saw before leaving Clinton, and he assures us that he will support the nominee in good faith, and he will do all he can. He did not make a lengthy argument against the anti-Know Nothing resolutions. Mr. McEachin simply rose to make a personal explanation to place himself right, and, although not strictly in order, the courtesy of the Convention allowed him to proceed with some remarks in regard to the resolutions. He was fully prepared to commit himself unequivocally against the secret order, but did not sanction the report because he doubted the policy of some expressions in one of the resolutions. It was a mere difference of opinion strictly within those limits which party fidelity imposes upon the members of the Democratic party.

The allusion to the old black ball K. N. of Fayetteville, made by the "special reporter" of the Herald, is, we suppose, meant for Mr. Arey, because he was the gentleman who asked the resolutions to be read over. It is part of the game to cast suspicion upon every prominent Democrat so as to excite distrust in our ranks. Mr. Arey is about the last, the very last man in the world that would have anything to do with them.

OUR TRIP TO CLINTON.—We do not design inflicting upon our readers a long account of our personal adventures, for the public care nothing at all about them; neither is it worth while to describe localities like Clinton, Warsaw, &c., because nearly every body has seen as much of them as we have. Clinton is known to be a beautiful and thriving village, inhabited by a clever and enterprising population, and the county seat of the good old county of Sampson, than which no county in the State is making more rapid progress in mental and material improvement, which improvement is plainly visible at the seat of justice. The Female Institute is a credit to the county and to the State, and never was in a more prosperous condition than at present, and never more deserving of the prosperity it enjoys.

During the Session of the Convention, and before and after, we enjoyed the opportunity of renewing old acquaintances, and making new ones—of meeting many whom it has long been our pride and pleasure to class as personal friends and of forming associations with others who will hereafter occupy that position in our feelings; and we flatter ourselves that some at least will continue so to regard us; at any rate, we have the satisfaction of believing that we made no enemies, nor willingly used an expression calculated to wound the feelings of any one. Indeed, we have never seen a Convention where fewer incidents occurred, of a nature even bordering unpleasantness. We know of none that could result in future heart burnings. In attendance upon Sampson Superior Court, and upon the Convention were very many of the prominent Democrats of the District and all expressed the fullest confidence in the success of the party, against any and all opposition.

To the temporary Chairman as well as the permanent President of the Convention, the highest praise is due for their urbanity and good feeling. Dr. McKoy is too well known in the District to need any praise at our hands. Mr. Houston, our president, was a comparative stranger to the great body of the delegates—he is no longer—even those with whom he formed no personal acquaintance will recollect him as one of the promptest and most courteous presiding officers they have ever seen.

To turn from the Convention and all other political matters. A friend from Robeson, P. A. McEachin, Esq., expressing the feelings of his friends and neighbors of all parties and shades of opinion, requests us earnestly to invite the attention of our people to the Railroad Mass Meeting to be held at Floral College, in that county, on the 19th inst. The people of Robeson and Richmond are in earnest about the Charlotte Road, and they want as many of their Wilmington friends as possible to come up and consult with them.

Among the speakers invited, are Thomas S. Ashe, Esq., of Anson, General Alexander McRae, H. F. Holmes, Joshua G. Wright and George Houston, Esqrs., of Wilmington, with many others.

The country all through is suffering terribly from drouth, and the cold at this time threatens to produce smut on the wheat. The ravages of fire are quite apparent in the woods.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA AT BOSTON.

Cholera Raging in the French Camp in the Crimea and at St. Petersburg.—Two Terrible Earthquakes.

Boston, May 9.—The Asia reached here at five o'clock this morning, from Halifax. The following items are contained in the papers received here by her, additional to the Halifax dispatch:

A despatch from the Crimea, dated April 17th, reports that the cholera was raging fearfully in the French camp.

The London Times of Saturday attributes the decline of the funds in part to the withholding by the Government of the latest news from the seat of war.

The cholera continued its ravages at St. Petersburg; and a serious overflow of the Neva was causing much distress and destruction of property.

On the 11th of April, Broussa, Turkey, was visited by another earthquake, which destroyed most of the stone buildings, and the wooden ones taking fire, were burned up. The lower quarter of the city was buried under large masses of earth and rock.

The village of Zikindji, one league from Broussa, was totally destroyed. One hundred and fifty shocks occurred within 24 hours. The loss of life was not known.

A difficulty has arisen between Sardinia and Naples respecting a suit at Ereguaru.

Napoleon's Consulate at Genoa is withdrawn.

The Latest from Europe.

New York, May 9.—A Liverpool letter received here, dated April 28th, says that the sales of cotton were larger for the week than any previous week for the last two years. The consumption continues heavy, and it is believed that prices will further advance.

Money was abundant, and it was rumored that the Bank would reduce the interest to four per cent in a few days. Bills were already discounting below that figure.

Political affairs are very unsatisfactory, and peace deemed to be further off than ever. The allied expedition against Sebastopol was regarded as a complete failure.

Later from Havana. The schooner Hayward, with Havana dates to the 5th, has just arrived. Everything was then quiet.

The yellow fever had made its appearance. The San Jacinto and other vessels of war have quitted Havana in order to preserve the health of their crews.

From Kansas Territory.

St. Louis, May 10.—A letter from the western part of the Territory, dated the evening of the 3d, states that cholera had appeared in a malignant form, thirteen deaths having occurred in twenty-four hours. It is now represented to be as bad, or worse, in Kansas city.

Destructive Fire in New Orleans.

New Orleans, May 7.—A fire has destroyed today the corners of St. Charles and Graving-streets, including the Exchange News Room, Vannuch's Museum, and the stores of Sherman, Ward and Jones. The loss is estimated at \$75,000. Only half of which amount is insured.

CAPE FEAR AND DEEP RIVER.—Governor Bragg has appointed Hon. A. Rencher, J. J. Jackson, and R. E. Rivers, Esq., Directors on the part of the State in the Cape Fear and Deep River Nav. Co.

The War in the Crimea.

A Brief Truce.—The Mamelon, the Malakoff, the Rifle Pits, and the Heliad—Carrying off the Dead.

Although we have given our readers perhaps a surfeit of war news lately, yet the subjoined letter from the Crimea correspondent of the London Herald is so graphic in its descriptions, and gives so clear and understandable an account of the position of the Russian advanced works, that we are convinced that no one will find its perusal uninteresting. "I said in the close of my last letter that a truce of two hours had been agreed upon to enable the Russians to recover and bury the dead. Shortly before twelve, therefore, I went down to our right attack in order to take advantage of the truce to see the enemy's position as closely as possible, arriving at Gordon's Battery, had opened fire this morning upon the right of Gordon's Battery. It was then only firing three guns of heavy calibre, but eight others were also in position. Until the Russians actually unmasked their guns we were not permitted to attempt to place any flag on the Mamelon, nor to attempt to place any flag on the Mamelon, nor to attempt to place any flag on the Mamelon. But the result shows that in this, as in other matters, we have undervalued our enemy, and the spirit of determination with which they appear bent on resisting to the last.

After spending a short time in Gordon's Battery, which is in the most perfect state of repair and good order, I proceeded by the zigzags and covered ways into the advanced trench on which the sortie was lately made. This is an advanced work about 200 yards from the Mamelon, and about 100 yards from the enemy's rifle pits, which are scattered more or less numerous along the whole front of the allied lines. The marksmen in these latter posts are continually alert and keep every one else on the alert also. They fire on the slightest sound, or at the most trifling indication of an enemy's presence. In approaching the advanced work by the covered ways some of the angles are necessarily a little open, so that at two or three turnings glimpses of the caps and heads of our men passing up and down can be obtained. On these corners the enemy's riflemen seem to concentrate their fire, and keep every one else on the alert also. 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